

2004 ELECTION

STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 16



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Hawaii's economy is a mess. Each year, thousands of our children leave the islands to go to the mainland...because they can't earn a living here. Hawaii needs to create new, productive, well-paying jobs. We need to remember that over-regulating business makes it harder to do business...and when we make it harder to do business, less business gets done.

The corruption in Hawaii's state procurement system is the talk of the nation. It seems that every week another procurement fraud comes to light. The legislature's response? "Let's study the problem, and see if it is in more than one department!" Once again, they want to defer the problem. Since problems were recently reported in airports, housing, and schools, we know that the problems lie with the overall system, not merely a single department.

Hawaii's schools are in no better shape. Hawaii's fine teachers are some of the worst paid in the nation (based on cost of living) and often teach in substandard conditions...without supplies. Hawaii has hundreds of millions of dollars of necessary school repairs that are not being done...more is added to the list than is done each year. Those who know our schools best don't trust them...over half of our legislators and public school teachers who have school age children enroll them in private schools.

Taxes are too high...and often hit hardest at those who can least afford them. The GET tax on food and medicine, for example, hurts the sick, the elderly, and the poor the most.

